



The OSCILLATOR

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April 2012



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Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club



"MY TWO CENTS" Pat Roberson

What a difference a day makes. Yesterday there was snow on the ground, and today, it's sunny and nearly 60 degrees. I cringed when I saw the radials on the HF antenna bent straight down from the weight of the snow. Luckily, they all straightened out when it melted.

OTVARC Club elections are coming this month (see Story elsewhere in this issue). It looks like we have a full slate of nominees. Nominations from the floor will be received at the April 19th meeting.

Volunteers are needed...Ron KD7VIK is looking for volunteers for the Sea-Pac 30th Anniversary Special Event station, for the club booth at Sea-Pac, and for Field Day. Contact Ron to help on these club projects. Also coming up in mid-May, *Reach The Beach*, Jim KB7ADH is organizing. Contact Jim if you can help out with this event.

73 for now.

Pat Roberson W7PAT
President

WTOTV SPECIAL EVENT STATION IN MAY

The Club will operate a Special Event Station in May to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of SEA-PAC, the Northwestern Division ARRL Convention at Seaside. Beginning May 18th, two weeks prior to the convention, and running through Sunday, June 3rd, the call sign will be offered by club members from home stations and finally from the Seaside Convention Center June 1 - 3.

Club members will be invited to put W7OTV on the air for the weekends of May 18-20 and 25-27. Operations may take place during the intervening week as well. Hours and bands of operation will be announced in advance through ham radio publications. A Special Event QSL Card is being developed for the event.

Ron O'Connor KD7VIK is coordinating the Special Event. He welcomes your expression of interest and time-slots for your availability. Contact him at kd7vik@arrl.net.

The Special Event Station is an official component of SEA-PAC 30. OTVARC has been the primary club sponsor for SEA-PAC for all thirty years.

CLUB MONTHLY MEETING Thursday, April 19th

The April Club Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 19th at Community Building, Sunset Presbyterian Church, 14986 NW Cornell Rd, just off US 26 (Exit 65) in Beaverton. The Meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

The program presenter is Randy Pitchford WW7ZZ on "Big Wire...Little Wire" the antenna choices of the Chinese for their Embassies." Nominees for the Club Board for the coming year will be introduced. Following their introduction, nominations will be received from the floor.

The atmosphere at our Club Meetings is casual. This is a good time to get to know another ham and extend the ring of friendship. Guests are always welcome. No Amateur Radio License is required.

OTVARC is affiliated with ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio and is a Special Service Club. Check the map at: tinyurl.com/otvarc-site
Questions? otvarc@gmail.com

HELP STILL NEEDED FOR
"REACH THE BEACH" IN MAY
Contact Jim Schaeffer
adhwddeb@aol.com

NOMINEES FOR 2012/2013 BOARD ELECTION

President

Herb Hirst K7HLH, joined the club three years ago after an OTVARC sponsored Technician class in North Plains. Herb has upgraded to Extra Class. His primary interests in amateur radio are dx and learning more about digital operation. He has also set a goal to learn and use code in the near future. Herb stepped up to fill the Vice President role in August, 2010.

Pat Roberson W7PAT, is a four year member of OTVARC. Pat holds an Advanced class license and received his first amateur radio license in 1985. Pat's primary interests in amateur radio are public service, emergency communications, and propagation. He has served as President and Vice President of the club.

Vice-President

Robert Crocker WN7O, is a ten year member of the club. Robert holds an Extra class license and was first licensed in 1950 as WA6JKJ while in the NAVY. He is very involved in MARS, emergency communications, an active member of OTVARC and past President and Trustee. Robert would like to be more active in CW and contesting. Currently working as a medical interpreter for Spanish speaking clients.

Secretary

Everett Curry W6ABM, is a thirteen year club member. He holds an Extra class license and received his first amateur radio license in 1956. Everett's primary interests in amateur radio are public service and encouraging hams to get on the air and upgrade to the next level of license. He served as Vice President in 2005 and 2006 and as Secretary in 2000, 2002, 2004, and 2011/2012, and as editor of The OSCILLATOR since 1999.

Treasurer

Warren Winner W7JDT, is a founding member of the club and served on our first Board of Directors. Warren holds an Advanced class amateur radio license and was W6QGG when in college in 1956. Warren's primary interests in amateur radio include HF, VHF, Sea-Pac and Field Day. He has previously served OTVARC as 2011/2012 Club Treasurer and Trustee in 1978.

Trustee (3 To Be Elected)

Will Hobbs W1ZO, is a twenty year member of the club. Will holds an Extra class license and received his license in 1962. With a degree in electronics, Will recently retired after a 23-year career at Intel. He anticipates getting on the air much more now that he has some free time. Will is active on HF and VHF and is looking forward to the coming peak of the sunspot cycle. As a college student, Will designed and built his own rigs, both HF and VHF from parts scrounged from old TV sets. He is a professional musician, singer, songwriter and is active in politics, having run for Congress in 2008.

Phil Kane K2ASP, has been licensed as an amateur radio operator for 60 years. He has played an active leadership role in many radio clubs during that time. Phil is active ham on HF, VHF, UHF in voice and data modes. He has been a member of OTVARC for 12 years, a current trustee and is license trustee of W7OTV. He is a ARRL life member, assistant director of the ARRL NW Division, volunteer council and volunteer consulting engineer. Phil has provided support to OTVARC as a communications attorney and engineer.

Continued—Nominees, See Page 3

Oregon Tualatin Valley
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
2012 / 2013 Ballot

President (vote for one)☐ Hirst, Herb☐ Roberson, Pat☐ _____**Vice-President**☐ Crocker, Robert☐ _____**Secretary**☐ Curry, Everett☐ _____**Treasurer**☐ Winner, Warren☐ _____**Trustee (vote for three)**☐ Hobbs, Will☐ Kane, Phil☐ O'Conner, Ron☐ Sutton, Mel☐ Ward, Steve☐ _____

[Official Ballot Will Be Handled By Postal Mail]

ELECTION PROCEDURE REVIEWED

The Election Committee has solicited nominations from the membership during January, February and March, 2012. Additional nominations will be entertained from the floor at the April 19, 2012 meeting.

The Election committee will print and mail all ballots between April 23 - 27, 2012. Each envelope will contain a ballot, a brief bio of the candidate for each position and a stamped return envelope.

All Ballots are due to the club postal address by May 12, 2012 when the Election Committee will count ballots.

The Election Committee will conduct an Installation of Officers and Trustees at the club meeting on May 17, 2012. Original ballots will be retained by The Election Committee until the June 14, 2012 Club Meeting.

Election Issues or Challenges will be judged by a panel composed of the President, Vice President, and a board-designated trustee. Decisions of this panel are final and without appeal.

NOMINEES, from page 2**Trustee (Continued)**

Ron O'Conner KD7VIK, has been licensed for 8 years and currently holds an Extra class license. He has been an active member of OTVARC, working on field day, the contest group and as a member of the General class upgrade team. Ron enjoys chasing dx, contesting and helping hams upgrade their licenses and skills. He is currently a club Trustee and is running for re-election.

Mel Sutton KB7PVW, is a 20 year member of OTVARC. Mel has been a licensed amateur radio operator since 1991. He is on the prize committee for *Sea-Pac* and served on the prize committee for the OTVARC monthly drawing. Mel has helped with radio communications for local walks, bike events like the Bridge Pedal, MS 150 and Summit to Surf. You can see Mel working on hospitality at Field Day.

Steve Ward AD7OG, is an eight year member of the club. Steve received his Extra class license in 2004. He has served as club secretary and is an active participant in Field Day with the contest group. Steve worked in commercial broadcasting for six years in the Portland area in the late 1980's and early '90s. His interest in technology goes beyond amateur radio. Steve was an early adopter of hybrid vehicles and now an all-electric one.

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

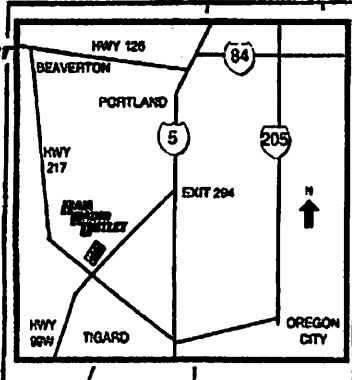


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What about the ARRL "Calling Channel" designation? The ARRL Band Plan is a national regime. Its purpose is to give a standard to hams who wish to operate with a "Good Operating Practices" commitment. Band Plans vary from one part of the country to another. Customary frequency uses for an area are learned as we move into an area. None of the plans have the force of law. They are useful as we give them respect and honor them.

Are travelers' use of "52" consistent with good operating practice? Yes, so long as we maintain short communications and allow multiple uses of the frequency. Yes, so long as we move off frequency to carry on long QSOs if others are waiting for the frequency. Yes, so long as we respond to requests for information and assistance.

What about "frequency police?" Candidly, I recommend we ignore continuing and repetitive notices that we cannot use "52" for a QSO. I move to "55" or "49" routinely for longer QSOs. When traveling with a group of hams, I try to use another simplex frequency for on-going contacts.

Enjoy ham radio. That's what its all about!

— Everett W6ABM

DO YOU LISTEN ON "52?"

"52," as it is affectionately known, is referred to as the "National Simplex Calling Frequency." This designation is not cast in law in the US or Canada. The confusion over its' use, and "frequency police" have kept amateurs away from significant use of 146.52 MHz in most of the country.

"52" is designated as a "Call, Contact, and Move" frequency by the ARRL Band Plan. You'll find a copy of the plan here: www.arrl.org/band-plan-1.

In many locations, where there is no significant radio traffic, 146.52 MHz is used as a general discussion frequency. Radio operators who use this frequency for general conversation provide a benefit to travelers coming into an area. These mobile Amateur Radio operators with Amateur Radio equipment in their vehicles can obtain valuable travel directions or other important information from locals by making contact here. It serves as an emergency reporting frequency for motorists, too. Since most repeaters are silent, and calls from an unknown operator go unanswered, "52" is a band address where you have a chance to receive a response.

I have carried hand-held radio with me when on the road for many years. When traveling by car, I usually have a simple mag-mount whip on the roof connected to the hand-held. Several times recently, another ham noticing my arrangement have commented that they never get a response to a call on repeaters or "52" and have given up carrying simple equipment. On a recent trip to Arizona by car, my mobile hand-held arrangement allowed for three brief QSOs. Two were with other mobiles responding to my call, the other took place when I heard another QSO complete. Depending on terrain, distances between stations range out to 15 miles or more. In one case, we followed the other station for 40 miles along the Interstate.

At the home station, I keep 146.52 and 147.84 MHz in my scanner. During the summer, I respond to hams traveling on US26 to the coast. The calling station may be looking for a QSO or a pizza slice, but the contact exemplifies ham radio.

HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS**20 - 22 APRIL 2012****63rd Annual Int'l DX Convention****Southern California DX Club****The Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center
Visalia, California****The Hotel is accepting reservations NOW****Online Convention Registration Open****www.dxconvention.org/index.html****1 - 3 JUNE 2012****30TH ANNUAL SEA-PAC CONVENTION****NW Division ARRL Convention****Seaside Convention Center****Seaside Oregon****Online Registration Now Open at:****seapac.org/registration/registration.php****C. Wayne Schuler AI9Q****16414 NE 21st Street****Vancouver, WA 98684****360.892.5580****ai9q@arrl.net****3 - 5 August 3-5, 2012****57th Annual Pacific Northwest****DX Convention****Monarch Hotel****Clackamas, Oregon****Willamette Valley DX Club****wvdx.org/dotnetnuke**

THE OSCILLATOR is seen each month by more than 200 members who read THE OSCILLATOR. To include your "Business Card" ad (\$48.00 annually) or "Display" - HRO size ad (\$60.00 annually), contact Maureen O'Rourke at 503.591.9641.

DC POWER**Anderson Connectors & More****Wes Allen, K7WWG****665 SW 167th Ave • 503-531-4081****Beaverton, OR 97006****e-mail: sales@dcpwr.com****Web: www.dcpwr.com****HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAY**

4	Kenneth Moore	W7GU
6	Richard Christie	WA6TVX
8	Melissa J. Nelson	KF7JIK
12	Mel Sutton	KB7PVW
16	Ron Remsen	W7YOW
18	Wes Allen	K7WWG
19	Darlene Young	KD7FUZ
21	Mike Kondrat	WB7DXA
22	John Tornblad	N7JDT
24	Ernest Johnson	K7EAJ
25	J. Michael Fuller	K7CIE
27	Mark Walker	W7CLU
27	Jeff Repp	KD7EFM

Did we miss your birthday? Perhaps we don't have it in our list. Drop a note to:

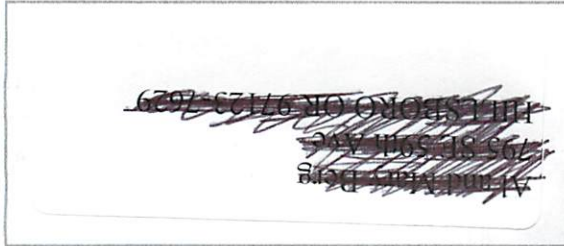
otvarc@gmail.com**APRIL LUNCH BUNCH**

**Saturday, April 28th
at 5:00 PM (Note Special Time)**

Giovanni Pizza**12390 SW Broadway****[Corner Hall and Broadway]****Beaverton****503.644.8767****Talk In: 147.54 MHz Simplex****Questions? Linda KC7YTD****kc7ytd@gmail.com****503.372.6286**

**On April 12th at TERAC, Gordon Moyle
presents "Beyond the Dish - About NASA
tracking stations and Radio Research in
Australia and New Zealand". Max's Fanno
Creek Pub, 12562 SW Main St. #100, Tigard,
Oregon. 7:30 pm.**

CLUB MEETING
APRIL 19TH



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www.seapac.org

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